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WASHINGTON LETTER

From our Regular Correspondent.

Senator Jones, of Arkansas, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has issued an address endorsing the appeal Clubs, for a celebration of 154th anniversary of the birthday of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the declaration of independence and the founder of American democracy, on the 13th day of this month by all democratic organizations.

The tariff bill has been in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee long enough to make it certain that it is going to be cut and slashed very much by that committee, not to mention what will be done to it after it gets reported to the Senate. Republican Senators are very free in saying that the bill is not what it ought to be.

That, of course, is not a sign that it will be bettered in the Senate, merely a sign that it will be very much changed. The clause making the duties imposed by the bill when it becomes a law collectable on all importations ordered after April 1st, is generally regarded as merely a farical scarecrow, set up to frighten the timid importers.

It now looks as though Speaker Reed intended to carry out the announced programme of only having the House meet twice a week—on Wednesdays and Saturdays—and adjourn. It may be that he can keep this thing up for two or three months that the Senate will take to pass the tariff bill, but many are predicting that he will have to give the House a chance to do something or it will do something in spite of him.

There is some very lively kicking among the new comers at the working of Mr. McKinley's rule against re-appointing men who held office under Harrison. When this rule was first announced the new comers were delighted, but they look at it differently now, when they see the ease with which the members of the "ex" brigade are quietly gathered up the good things. The re-appointment of Mr. Palmer, to be public printer was received with wry faces by the newcomers, but when Mr. Palmer took charge of the Government Printing Office and reappointed W. H. Collins, Chief Clerk and H. P. Brian, foreman, words were uttered that cannot be printed in a family newspaper.

A majority of the Executive Committee of the Indianapolis Monetary Convention, more generally known as the Banker's Convention, are in Washington trying to talk Senators and Representatives into supporting a bill providing for a Monetary Commission. The members of the Committee profess to be jubilant over the outlook for the bill, but Senators and Representatives appear to be entirely indifferent to the subject. Representatives Heatwole, of Minn., offered a reso-

lution last week for the creation of such a commission, but there is nothing in sight to indicate that it will be acted upon, notwithstanding the implied support Mr. McKinley gave the scheme just after the Indianapolis convention.

The selection of ex-Representative Benjamin Butterworth, of Ohio, to be Commissioner of Patents, a place he filled once before to the satisfaction of all those having dealings with the office, can scarcely be considered political, as Mr. Butterworth has expressed opinions upon the tariff and silver question that were a long ways from being in accord with those held by Mr. McKinley and the men who are dominating his administration and the republican party at this time. Mr. Butterworth's appointment can be credited to the friendship of Mr. McKinley for him, and to his eminent fitness for the place. All of his experience and wide knowledge of patent law and practice as well as the prestige given by his name will be needed by Mr. Butterworth to put the business of the Patent Office upon the high professional plane it should occupy.

They are telling a little story about Czar Reed at the expense of a number of Senators. According to the story, the Czar just before the meeting of the extra session, attended a dinner party where the guests were nearly all senators, some of whom were expressing direful forebodings about what would happen to Senatorial dignity when "Billy" Mason, with his free and easy manners, entered that body. The Czar finally tired of that sort of thing, and turning to the Senators asked in that exasperating drawl which he doesn't drop into so often in the House as he used to: "Do you think Mason will stay in the Senate long enough to become as dull as the rest of you?"

The office-seekers have proven to be too much for McKinley and the official announcement is made that he will this week run away from them by taking a little trip of two or three days rest.

Not much surprise was caused by the announcement that Ex-Secretary Carlisle has been retained to look after the legal interests in the South of the S. Pierpont Morgan establishment.

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The Democratic party in the last campaign denounced government by injunction, and the Republicans in this and other States were greatly shocked and grieved thereat. And yet the head of the Republican party in North Carolina is almost entirely occupied these days in denouncing court injunctions.—Asheville citizen.

Amendments to the Mecklenburg Road Law.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

1st. That Sec. 8 of chapter 134 Laws of 1885 be amended by adding to end of said section: "Provided that said road districts shall not contain more than twenty hands subject to road duty."

2nd. That Sec. 5 be amended by adding at the end of said section: "Provided that hands subject to road duty may be required to perform four days additional service in the making new roads."

3rd. That Sec. 6 be amended by striking out in line 3 word 'February' and insert in lieu thereof the word 'May' and in same line strike out the word 'first' as it occurs after February and insert in lieu thereof the word 'last', and in fourth line strike out the word 'December' and insert in lieu thereof the word 'April'.

4. That Sec. 8 be amended by striking out in line five the word 'seven' and insert in lieu thereof the word 'eight', and add at the end of said section: "Provided that road hands be required to perform eight hours labor on roads per day."

5. That Sec. 19 be amended by striking out in line four the words 'one dollar' and insert in lieu thereof the words 'sixty cents'.

6. That Sec. 24 of said act be stricken out and the following substituted in lieu thereof: "That for superintending labor in payment of taxes on labor otherwise employed, each supervisor shall receive one dollar per day for the time actually employed under the direction of township board of trustees. Provided that no supervisor shall receive compensation for more than four days service for any one year under the provisions of this act."

7. That it shall be the duty of the county commissioners of Watauga and Ashe counties to furnish the supervisors of each township a certified list of all insolvent tax payers in said townships together with the amount due from each, and when each supervisor shall have been furnished with a list of insolvent tax-payers in his road district, he shall proceed to warn said insolvent tax-payers in the same manner as the other hands are warned to work on public roads. Said insolvent tax payers to be entitled to a credit on their tax receipts at the rate of sixty cents per day until the tax is fully paid. It shall be the duty of the supervisor to receipt each insolvent tax-payer for every day he works until his entire tax is paid, and on presenting his receipts to the sheriff or tax collector equal in amount to the tax charged against him said insolvent tax-payer shall be entitled to his tax receipt."

8. Any person failing or refusing to comply with the provisions of section seven, of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not more than five dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days, or both, at the discretion of the Court. The supervisors of each road district shall prosecute any person or persons refusing to comply with the provisions of said section seven of this act in the same manner that other roads hands are prosecuted.

9. That this act shall be in force from and after the first day of May one thousand eight hundred and ninety seven, and shall apply only to the counties of Ashe and Watauga.

What Housekeepers Should Know.
The salt should be kept in a dry place.
That melted butter will not make good cake.
That veal should be white, dry and close grained.
That the colder eggs are the quicker they will froth.
That mutton should be a deep red and close-grained.
That nutmegs should be grated at the blossom end first.
That to make good pastry the ingredients must be very cold.
That the best poultry has firm flesh, yellow skin and legs.
That lemons will keep for weeks if covered with cold water.
That the best of beef is moderately fat and the flesh of a bright red color.
That pork should be fine, close-grained and the red smooth and thin.
That soap and chalk mixed and rubbed on mildewed spots will remove them.
That a spoonful of vinegar added to the water in which meat or fowls are boiled makes them tender.
That good macaroni is of a yellowish tint, does not break readily in cooking, and swells to three or four times its bulk.
That a little vinegar kept boiling on the stove while onion or cabbage are cooking will prevent the disagreeable odor going through the house.—*Ladies Home Companion.*

Well Meant, but too Late.
A pathetic story, true or well invented, comes from the St. Lewis Republic. At a little station fifty miles from Chicago an old farmer boarded a railway train; a thin man with a sensitive mouth half concealed by an iron gray beard, dressed in what were evidently his most uncomfortable Sunday clothes. He slid softly into a seat beside a grave stranger.

Two or three times the old man turned his face toward the flying landscape. The stranger was struck with the troubled expression, and glanced wistfully at his companion. The latter spoke at last with a pathetic huskiness in his voice:

"I am going to the city for the second time in my life," he said, half startled at his own words.

"Yes?"
"Thirty years ago come July I went there for a wedding suit, and I am going back to-day for a coffin and a shroud for the little woman that married me."

"You don't know what it is, mister," he continued, "to live and work 'longside a woman for thirty years, day in and day out, to find her always patient and willing and working, and then leave her lying dead and cold with her worn-out hands crossed over her breast. It was just a little after the turn of the night and nobody but me was watching, when Marie kinder woke up."

"David," said she, 'its restful—so restful, and I am so tired.' And so she went to sleep again and didn't wake up this side of heaven."

"You know, stranger, these words of hers has set me to thinking. Poor tired soul, I never knew how much she needed rest. We never thought of it while we were working and skimping and saving, trying to lay up something for the children."

"She never had any pleasure, she never took any holidays or visited the other women. She raised the children and fed the pigs and milked the cows and churned and cooked for the harvest hands. I never knew or thought how she did it all with those poor, crossed hands of hers."

"Some folks say it won't do any good, mister, but I am going to see that she is put away in something rich. We wasn't skimping and saving for thirty years for this, but I'm going to have the best that money can buy. She's earned it. God knows."

Worse Than Penniless.
Few of Mark Twain's many friends know of the plucky fight he is making with adversity, or how badly he has been used by fortune. In a word, Mark Twain, who a couple of years ago thought himself a rich man, is to-day worse than penniless. Since his return from Africa a few months ago, has been living in very modest lodgings in London, going nowhere and seeing but one or two friends working all day and every day a history of his trip around the world. With the proceeds of this book he hopes to be able to pay off his creditors and leave some-

HE PINED NO MORE.
The proud lips of the maiden curled.
"So, Algernon Thinklittle," she sneered, "you say you love me. Do you love me better than Richard Winebiddle, who signed the temperance pledge for me? Do you care more for me than James Locust, who thrashed two men twice his size for saying that in my new theater but I looked like an animated feather duster? Do you?"

"Stop, Regina Blueblood," cried the young man, and the light of high resolve came into his eyes. "I love you better than all these. I swear it. I shall rest my head every night on that pine needle sofa cushion you gave me."

"Algernon," murmured the young woman, "I have been cruel, Forgive me. I don't think that I can get ready for the wedding in less than six weeks."

And Algernon pined no more.—*New York Herald.*

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